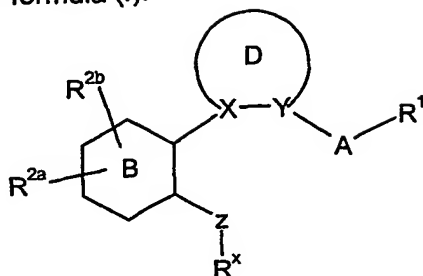


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

- 5 wherein:

A represents an optionally substituted aryl, or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered heterocyclyl ring, or an optionally substituted bicyclic heterocyclyl group;

B represents a phenyl or pyridyl ring;

- 10 D represents an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing one or two heteroatoms selected from N, S and O, wherein X and Y are each independently selected from N and C;

Z represents O, S, SO, or SO_2 ;

- 15 R^1 represents CO_2H , CN, $CONR^5R^6$, CH_2CO_2H , optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted SO_2 alkyl, $SO_2NR^5R^6$, $NR^5CONR^5R^6$, COalkyl, 2H-tetrazol-5-yl-methyl, optionally substituted bicyclic heterocycle or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

R^{2a} and R^{2b} each independently represents hydrogen, halo, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkoxy, CN, SO_2 alkyl, SR^5 , NO_2 , optionally substituted aryl, $CONR^5R^6$ or optionally substituted heteroaryl;

- 20 R^x represents optionally substituted alkyl wherein 1 or 2 of the non-terminal carbon atoms are optionally substituted by a group independently selected from NR^4 , O and SO_n , wherein n is 0, 1 or 2; optionally substituted alkenyl; or optionally substituted alkynyl; or R^x represents optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b -heterocyclyl, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b -bicyclic heterocyclyl or optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b -aryl;

- 25 R^4 represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;

R^5 represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;

R^6 represents hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted SO_2 aryl, optionally substituted SO_2 alkyl, optionally substituted SO_2 heteroaryl, CN, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b aryl, optionally substituted

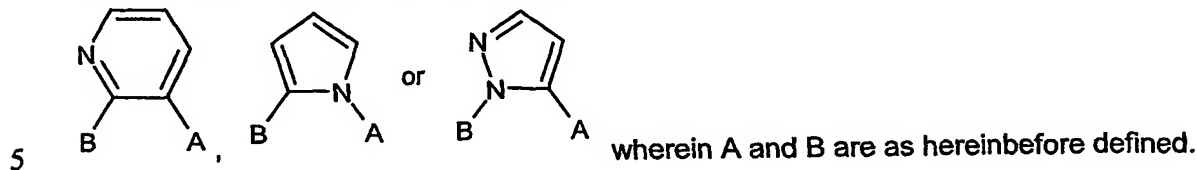
- 30 CQ^aQ^b heteroaryl or COR^7 ;

R^7 represents hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl or optionally substituted aryl;

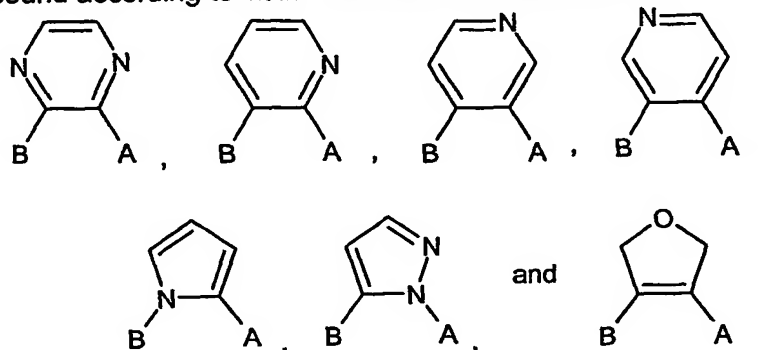
Q^a and Q^b are each independently selected from hydrogen and CH_3 ;

- 35 wherein when A is a 6-membered ring the R^1 substituent and the D ring are attached to carbon atoms 1,2-, 1,3- or 1,4- relative to each other, and when A is a five-membered ring

or bicyclic heterocyclyl group the R¹ substituent and the D ring are attached to substitutable carbon atoms 1,2- or 1,3- relative to each other; and derivatives thereof; provided that D is not imidazolyl, thienyl,



2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein D is selected from



all of which may be optionally substituted.

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3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein A is selected from pyridyl or optionally substituted phenyl.

4. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein R¹ is CO₂H.

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5. A compound selected from:

- 3-{1-[2-(benzyloxy)-phenyl]-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{1-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl}-benzoic acid;
 20 3-{1-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-bromo-phenyl]-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{5-[2-(benzyloxy)-phenyl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{5-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-pyrazin-2-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{4-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-furan-3-yl}-benzoic acid;
 25 3-{3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-furan-4-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{3-[2-(benzyloxy)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{4-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-pyridin-3-yl}-benzoic acid;
 3-{3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-pyridin-2-yl}-benzoic acid;
 30 3-{3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl}-5-(acetylamino)-benzoic acid;

- 3-{3-[2-(4-fluoro-benzyloxy)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl}-5-(acetylamino)-benzoic acid;
3-{3-[2-(2,4-difluoro-benzyloxy)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl}-5-(acetylamino)-benzoic acid;
5 3-{3-[2-(benzyloxy)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl}-5-(acetylamino)-benzoic acid; and
6-{1-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl}-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid;
and derivatives thereof.
6. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of
10 claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof together with a pharmaceutical carrier and/or excipient.
7. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for use as an active therapeutic substance.
- 15 8. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for use in the treatment of a condition which is mediated by the action of PGE₂ at EP₁ receptors.
- 20 9. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a condition which is mediated by the action of PGE₂ at EP₁ receptors which comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.
- 25 10. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a pain, inflammatory, immunological, bone, neurodegenerative or renal disorder, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.
- 30 11. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from inflammatory pain, neuropathic pain or visceral pain which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.
- 35 12. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a condition which is mediated by the action of PGE₂ at EP₁ receptors.
- 40 13. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a condition such as a pain, inflammatory, immunological, bone, neurodegenerative or renal disorder.

14. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a condition such as inflammatory pain, neuropathic pain or visceral pain.

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